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E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/11/2018
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [SNAR](#) [KDEM](#) [GR](#) [XM](#) [BL](#)
SUBJECT: GREECE ON EXPULSION OF DEA FROM BOLIVIA

REF: STATE 118934

Classified By: A/Political Counselor Jeff Hovenier for 1.4 (b) and (d)

(C) A/Political Counselor met November 12 with Nicolas Sterioulas, acting Deputy Director of the MFA A8 Latin America Division, to make reftel points about the expulsion of the DEA from Bolivia. Sterioulas said Greece was "disappointed" by this decision, and agreed that the DEA's absence would likely result in a more permissive environment for growing coca thus leading to more trafficking and more cocaine both in the United States and in Europe. Sterioulas said he also expected "the Bolivia issue" to be on the agenda of the next meeting of EU Latin American experts (COLAT); the Greek representative will be "fully informed" of U.S. views on this situation. Sterioulas had no further substantive comment.
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